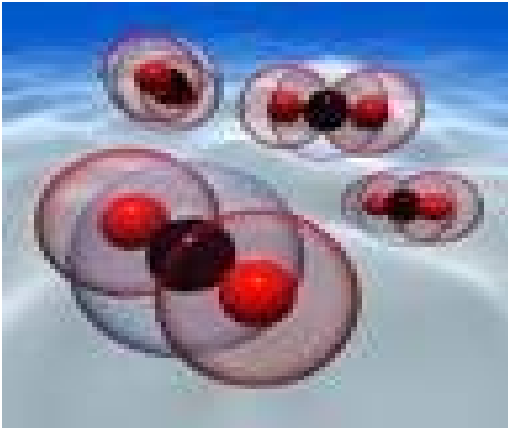


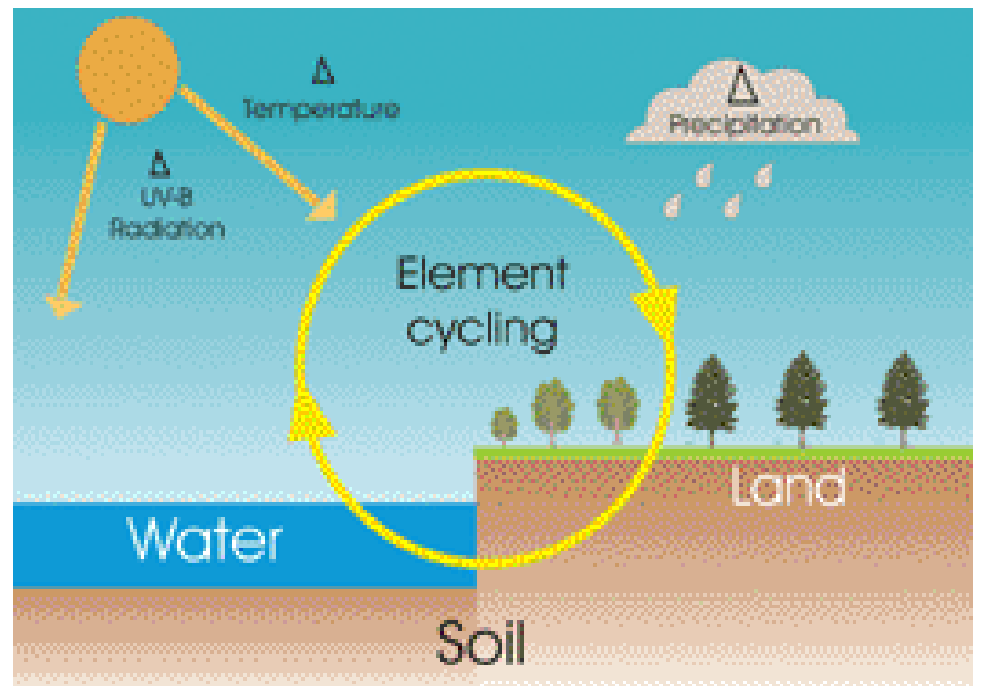
THE ATMOSPHERE & CARBON CYCLING



Carbon dioxide (CO₂) is removed from the atmosphere by producers: plants like trees that use CO₂, sunlight and nutrients to make food through the process of **PHOTOSYNTHESIS**.

Some CO₂ is then released back into the atmosphere through **RESPIRATION** as the plants, animals and fungi break down their food nutrients to create energy.

Some CO₂ is released from water and soils due to **dissolution** from liquids or change in concentration gradients in soils.



CH₄ (methane) is added to the atmosphere from **decomposition** of plants and released from thawing tundra as well as cow and termite **digestion** processes.



Other *Hydrocarbons* are released to the air from **combustion** of fossil fuels.

